

**SOUDERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
760 Lower Road  
Souderton, PA 18964

A meeting of the Souderton Area Board of School Directors was held Thursday, October 12, 2006 at the District Administrative Office in the Lowell A. Tinner Board Room. The meeting was called to order at 7:35PM by President Eric MacDougall, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll call was as follows:

PRESENT:	William J. Brong	Eric R. MacDougall
	Tracy G. Cole	Dr. Jack A. Parry
	Bernard S. Currie	Victor M. Verbeke
ABSENT:	Dr. R. Paul Baumgartner	R. Bud Miller
	Mark D. Leer	
SOLICITOR:	Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.	

Also present at the meeting were: Dr. Charles Amuso, Dr. Stacy Aronow, Karen Berk, Brenda J. Bray, Brad Clemens, Grace Eves, Frank Gallagher, Karen Giannini, Gail Ryan, Jack Silva, Sam Varano, representatives from The Souderton Independent, The Reporter, Radio Station WNPV, and the public.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Charles D. Amuso, Ed.D.

**School Organization Recognition**

Dr. Amuso introduced Dr. Stacy Aronow and praised her and the Arrowhead editors and staff for their broad types of articles. Dr. Aronow spoke about the achievements of the Souderton Area High School “2005-2006 Arrowhead” newspaper and the awards won from various organizations for excellence in newspaper publication. Dr. Stacy Aronow is the advisor for this organization.

Columbia Scholastic Press Association – Gold Medal  
All Columbian Honors: Coverage  
Writing and Editing  
Graphic Presentation

National Scholastic Press Association – First Class Award  
Marks of Distinction: Coverage and Content  
Leadership

Quill and Scroll International Honorary Society – International First Place Award  
for Superior Achievement

Pennsylvania School Press Association – Gold Medal

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

School Organization Recognition (continued)

Student staff members are:

Editor in Chief – Abigail Kramer	Features Editor – Julie Mokrzycki
Managing Editor – Jonathan Burks	Sports Editor – Meghan McSloy
Opinion Editor – Neil Heckman	Entertainment Editor – Christina Braccio
News Editor – Michael Zhou	Special Section Editor – Marissa Tierney
Photography Editor – Elizabeth Kilmer	

Upon a motion by Mr. Brong, second by Mrs. Cole, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

**RESOLVED**, That the Board recognize the “Arrowhead” Newspaper staff for their achievements.

**EXHIBIT A**

Requests for Conferences/Workshops

Dr. Amuso presented the requests to attend conferences/workshops, stating that they conform to district administrative policy and procedures.

Upon a motion by Mr. Currie, second by Dr. Parry, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

**RESOLVED**, That the Board approve the requests for conferences and workshops as listed:

**LOUISA ABNEY-BABCOCK**  
Gifted Teacher, Indian Crest Jr. High  
**NANCY GRESHOCK**  
Gifted Teacher, Indian Crest Jr. High

Summer Institute for the Gifted  
Bryn Mawr, PA  
October 13, 2006 (Fri.)  
Est. Expenses: \$255.60 (combined)  
Sub. Expenses: 0.00  
Total Expenses: \$255.60 (combined)

**MELINDA GROSSO**  
Speech & Language, Lower Salford Elem.

Assessment and Treatment of Fluency Disorders  
Doylestown, PA  
October 17, 2006 (Tues.)  
Est. Expenses: \$ 0.00  
Sub. Expenses: 0.00  
Total Expenses: \$ 0.00

**CRAIG EVANS**  
**DR. STANTON HOLLOWAY**  
District Psychologists

Association of School Psychologists of PA  
Penn State Fall Conference  
State College, PA  
October 18-19, 2006 (Wed.-Thurs.)  
Est. Expenses: \$728.00 (combined)  
Sub. Expenses: 0.00  
Total Expenses: \$728.00 (combined)

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

**Requests for Conferences/Workshops (continued)**

**LISA PITTS**

Math, Senior High School

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics  
Conference

Atlantic City, NJ

October 19, 2006 (Thurs.)

Est. Expenses: \$200.00

Sub. Expenses: 103.00

Total Expenses: \$303.00

**SARA SCHWED**

District Psychologist

Continuing Education and Ethics Conference  
PA Psychological Association

Frazer, PA

Paid by IDEA funds.

October 20, 2006 (Fri.)

Est. Expenses: \$150.00

Sub. Expenses: 0.00

Total Expenses: \$150.00

**ELIZABETH MAZA**

Supervisor of Elementary Special  
Education

The Science of Reading: Overcoming Dyslexia  
Allentown, PA

October 26, 2006 (Thurs.)

**CARYL WATERS**

Student Support Teacher  
West Broad Street Elem.

Est. Expenses: \$154.27 (combined)

Sub. Expenses: 0.00

Total Expenses: \$154.27 (combined)

**CHRISTINE MAINE**

Kindergarten, Vernfield Elem.

Hearing and Language Development in Early  
Childhood Education: Precursor to Literacy  
King of Prussia, PA

October 26, 2006 (Thurs.)

Est. Expenses: \$195.00

Sub. Expenses: 103.00

Total Expenses: \$298.00

**SARA SCHWED**

District Psychologist

Math Skills Instruction, Assessment, Integrating  
Neuropsychological and RTI

Frazer, PA

November 1, 2006 (Wed.)

Est. Expenses: \$105.00

Sub. Expenses: 0.00

Total Expenses: \$105.00

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Requests for Conferences/Workshops (continued)

<b>CHRISTINE BENNETT</b> Fourth Grade, Oak Ridge Elem.	National Science Teachers Assoc. Conference Baltimore, MD November 3, 2006 (Fri.)
<b>PAT BERGER</b> Science, Senior High School	Est. Expenses: \$1,177.92 (combined)
<b>NANCY CIANCHETTA</b> Science, Indian Valley Middle School	Sub. Expenses: <u>515.00</u> (combined)
<b>COLLEEN HARTMAN</b> Science, Senior High School	Est. Expenses: \$1,692.92 (combined)
<b>CHRIS JACKSON</b> Science, Senior High School	

<b>JACQUELINE DUGGAN</b> Reading, Indian Valley M. S.	Children's Literature Conference West Chester, PA November 4, 2006 (Sat.)
	Est. Expenses: \$82.80
	Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u>
	Total Expenses: \$82.80

<b>WENDY CHRISTENSEN</b> Music, Oak Ridge Elem.	Pennsylvania Music Educators Assoc. Conference Collegeville, PA November 7, 2006 (Tues.)
<b>LISA KNORR</b> Music, Vernfield Elem.	Est. Expenses: \$115.00 (combined)
<b>JOANNE REIGNER</b> Music, Lower Salford/Franconia Elem.	Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u>
<b>ERIC STOVER</b> Music, West Broad Street Elem.	Total Expenses: \$115.00 (combined)
<b>RYAN WILLIAMS</b> Elementary Strings Teacher	

<b>NAHEED SAEED SNYDER</b> ESL Teacher, Indian Crest Jr. High	Introduction to World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment Training King of Prussia, PA November 8, 2006 (Wed.)
Paid by Federal funds.	Est. Expenses: \$ 35.60
	Sub. Expenses: <u>103.00</u>
	Total Expenses: \$138.60

<b>J. MICHAEL HAZLETT</b> Technology Teacher, Senior High School	Cisco Networking Academy Conference and Retooling Blue Bell, PA November 10, 2006 (Fri.)
	Est. Expenses: \$ 0.00
	Sub. Expenses: <u>103.00</u>
	Total Expenses: \$103.00

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

**Requests for Conferences/Workshops (continued)**

<b>AMY COYLE</b> District Itinerant Autistic Support	Helping Student Develop Social Thinking Skills Horsham, PA November 10, 2006 (Fri.)
<b>RACHAEL SIMMS</b> District Itinerant Autistic Support	Est. Expenses: \$230.00 (combined) Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$230.00 (combined)
<b>CHRISTINE SODA</b> Guidance Counselor, Senior High School	Mean Girls Relational Aggression Workshop Atlantic City, NJ December 1, 2006 (Fri.)
	Est. Expenses: \$173.50 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$173.50
<b>VICTORIA BALL</b> Student Support Teacher, Oak Ridge Elem.	The Impact of Trauma on Students and Their Families Norristown, PA December 6, 2006 (Wed.)
	Est. Expenses: \$ 0.00 Sub. Expenses: <u>103.00</u> Total Expenses: \$103.00
<b>SHAWN MESSMER</b> Assistant Principal, Senior High School	Link Drew – Boomerang Project (High School Transition) Long Branch, NJ April 17 – 18, 2007 (Thurs.-Fri.)
	Est. Expenses: \$2,340.00 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$2,340.00

**Local Tax Study Commission Report**

Dr. Amuso explained that the commission is studying a shift from property tax to an income tax and that the Local Tax Study Commission is evaluating an increase in earned income tax versus the implementation of a personal income tax. Mr. Sultanik updated the board on proposed legislation on tax collection consolidation; possibly consolidating to a county-wide collection process.

Dr. Amuso mentioned that the Local Tax Study Commission is required to have a public hearing to review the information and data and receive public comment. A recommendation to the board will be delivered by the Local Tax Study Commission on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY**

Brenda Jones Bray

Action on School Board Meeting Minutes of September 28, 2006

Mrs. Bray presented the Minutes of the September 28, 2006 Board meeting for approval.

Upon a motion by Dr. Parry, second by Mr. Brong, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

**RESOLVED**, That the Board approve the Minutes of the September 28, 2006 Board meeting as presented.

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

Eric R. MacDougall

An Executive Session was held September 28, 2006 to discuss possible litigation. The meeting lasted 75 minutes.

An Executive Session was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel items. That meeting lasted 30 minutes.

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER**

Grace Eves

Approval of the Financial Statements for September 2006

Mrs. Eves presented the financial statements for September 2006 as an information item.

Mr. MacDougall expressed concern about the bond account, indicating that the funds were depleting. This is due to construction being ahead of schedule.

**EDUCATION-PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Mark D. Leer, Chairperson

**Committee Chairperson Report**

Mrs. Cole presented the report in the absence of chairperson Mr. Leer.

Mrs. Cole indicated that topics of discussion at the October 18, 2006 Education-Personnel Committee will be, but not limited to the following:

- Kids Voting
- Out-of-State/Overnight Field Trip Requests
- Program Evaluation
- Course of Study – Pre-Algebra – Grades 6 and 7
- Course of Study – Honors English – Grade 12

EDUCATION-PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

CURRICULUM ITEMS

Third Reading and Recommendation for Approval of Reading Units for Study for Grades 1-2

There was a motion by Mrs. Cole, second by Mr. Currie.

Dr. Parry asked if the units of study were consistent across the grade levels.

Mrs. Ryan responded that all first and second graders are using the units of study.

The vote was taken, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

**RESOLVED**, That the Board grant final approval of the Reading Units for Study for Grades 1-2 as presented.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Upon a motion by Mrs. Cole, second by Mr. Currie, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

**RESOLVED**, That the Board approve the Professional Staff recommendation for employment as listed:

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Recommendation for Employment

**STEPHEN STRAKA**

Replacement for  
Joseph Reichert (resigned)

Education

Lock Haven Univ. (BFA) 1998  
West Chester Univ. (Certif.) 1999

Instrumental Music, Senior High School

**TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL**

Beginning: Second semester, 2006-2007 school year

Experience

2005-Present-Coatesville Area SD-South Brandywine  
Middle School-General Music, Choral, Jazz Band  
Director

2004-2005-SASD-Substitute Teacher

2003-2004-SASD-Indian Crest-Part-Time Music Teacher

Jan.-June 2003-SASD-Indian Crest-General Music (LTS)

Sept. 2002-Jan. 2003-SASD-Indian Crest-Part-Time  
Music

2001-2002-Allentown SD-General Music (LTS)

2000-2001-Bristol Township SD-General Music (LTS)

Recommended Salary

\$42,928 (pro-rated) – B+24 (4)

Upon a motion by Mrs. Cole, second by Mr. Brong, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

**RESOLVED**, That the Board approve the Support Staff resignations, transfers, and recommendation for employment as listed:

**EDUCATION-PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**PERSONNEL ITEMS**

**SUPPORT STAFF**

Resignations

**JAMES BARNES, JR.**

Part-Time Custodial Substitute  
Effective: October 6, 2006

**DANIEL BERRET**

Full-Time Second Shift Custodian, E. M. Crouthamel  
Effective: October 6, 2006

Transfers

**JANINE CAPECI**

From: Substitute Cafeteria/Playground Aide  
Oak Ridge Elem.  
To: Substitute Cafeteria/Playground Aide  
Lower Salford Elem.  
Beginning: September 5, 2006  
Hourly Rate: \$9.20  
Hours: as needed

**SHARON MARSH**

Replacement for  
Andrea Bessler (resigned)

From: Second Shift, Full-Time Custodian  
West Broad Street Elem.  
To: Second Shift, Full-Time Custodian  
Indian Valley Middle School  
Beginning: TBD  
Hourly Rate: \$17.04  
Hours: 8 per day

**ROBERT SELLERS**

Replacement for  
Nate Ruff (resigned)

From: Custodial Substitute  
To: Part-Time Custodian, Indian Crest Jr. High  
Beginning: October 13, 2006  
Hourly Rate: \$9.21  
Hours: 4 per day

**STEFAN SHOUP**

Replacement for  
Chris Kielbasa (resigned)

From: Custodial Substitute  
To: Part-Time Custodian, Indian Valley M. S.  
Beginning: October 13, 2006  
Hourly Rate: \$9.21  
Hours: 4 per day

Recommendations for Employment

**MARY BURNS**

Replacement for  
Debra Heubach (resigned)

Cafeteria/Playground Aide, Vernfield Elem.  
Beginning: October 13, 2006  
Hourly Rate: \$9.20  
Hours: 1.5 per day



**EDUCATION-PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**PERSONNEL ITEMS**

**SUPPORT STAFF (continued)**

**Recommendations for Employment (continued)**

**JEAN CHRASTINA** Title I Aide, Franconia Elem.  
New position paid with Title funds. Beginning: October 13, 2006  
Hourly Rate: \$12.65  
Hours: 6 per day

**MARTHA MOYER** Special Education Autistic Aide, Vernfield Elem.  
Replacement for Beginning: October 13, 2006  
Jennifer Auchenbach (resigned) Hourly Rate: \$10.23  
Hours: 7 per day

**SAMANTHA NACE** Substitute Cafeteria/Playground Aide  
E. M. Crouthamel Elem.  
Beginning: October 13, 2006  
Hourly Rate: \$9.20  
Hours: as needed

**MARGARET ROBERTSON** Classroom Aide, Oak Ridge Elem.  
New position due to enrollment. Beginning: October 13, 2006  
Approved at the September 14, Hourly Rate: \$9.40  
2006 Board meeting. Hours: 15 hour per week

Upon a motion by Mrs. Cole, second by Mr. Verbeke, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

**RESOLVED**, That the Board approve the additions/deletions to the Substitute Teacher and Food Service listing for 2006-2007, Community Education Fall 2006 recommendations, and the additional request for placement of a student teacher as listed:

Additions/Deletions to the Substitute Teacher and Food Service Listing for 2006-2007

**EXHIBIT B**

**Community Education Fall 2006 – Additional Staff and Salaries**

<b>MEGAN GRAHAM</b>	Spanish for Beginners	\$320.00
<b>IRENE SIVAR</b>	Casseroles for Every Meal	80.00
<b>LEAH WEIDEMOYER</b>	Pet First Aid	90.00
<b>DEE CHAFFIER</b>	Real Estate and Mortgage Workshop	125.00
(Replaces Michael Yahrting)		
<b>BOB HUBER</b>	Golf I	325.00
(Replaces James Miller)		

**EDUCATION-PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**PERSONNEL ITEMS**

**Additional Request for Placement of Student Teachers**

The following university has requested to place student teachers in Souderton Area School District classrooms during the 2006-2007 school year: **Philadelphia Biblical University**

The next Education-Personnel Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 18, 2006 at 7:30 PM in the Souderton Area School District Administrative Offices, Lowell A. Tinner Board Room, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

**NORTH MONTCO TECHNICAL CAREER CENTER**

William J. Brong and Mark D. Leer, Representatives

No report.

The next Joint Operating Committee meeting will be held on Monday, October 16, 2006 at 7:30 PM at the North Montco Technical Career Center, Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA.

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

R. "Bud" Miller, Chairperson

Mr. Brong presented the Operations Committee report in the absence of chairperson Mr. Miller.

**BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE**

**Requests for Use of School Facilities**

Mr. Brong presenting the requests stating that the requests meet prevailing rates and conform to present policy.

**FRANCONIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Souderton Area Baseball/Softball League

Gym – 7:00 – 9:00PM

November 1, 2006 – March 31, 2007

Thursday evening skills practice

Certificate of Insurance on file

Souderton Harleysville Youth Basketball Association

Gym

November 24, 2006 – March 17, 2007

Friday evenings – 6:30 - 10:00PM

Saturday – 8:00AM – 3:00PM

Certificate of Insurance on file

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

**BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE**

Requests for Use of School Facilities (continued)

Prevailing rates, conforming to present policy

**FRANCONIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Montgomery County  
Library  
Tuesdays – October 10, 17, 24 and November 14, 2006  
3:30 – 4:45PM  
Good News Club Meetings  
Certificate of Insurance on file

**SOUDERTON AREA HIGH SCHOOL**

Harrington Village Homeowner's Association  
Auditorium  
October 24, 2006  
7:00PM – 8:15PM  
Association Meeting  
Certificate of Insurance on file

Souderton Youth Wrestling  
Gym  
Sunday, January 21, 2007  
8:00AM – 3:00PM  
Certificate of Insurance on file

**INDIAN CREST JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

Souderton Youth Wrestling  
Gym  
December 12, 2006 and February 3, 2007  
8:00AM – 1:00PM  
Certificate of Insurance on file

D.A.R.E. Graduation  
Auditorium/Cafeteria  
February 13, 2007  
6:00PM – 9:00PM  
Certificate of Insurance on file

Souderton Harleysville Youth Basketball Association  
Gym  
November 24, 2006 – March 17, 2007  
Friday evenings – 6:30-10:00PM  
Saturdays – 8:00AM – 3:00PM  
Sundays – 10:00AM – 6:00PM  
Certificate of Insurance on file

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

**BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE**

Requests for Use of School Facilities (continued)

Prevailing rates, conforming to present policy

**INDIAN VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Harleysville Rotary Club

Parking Lot

Saturday – October 21, 2006

9:30AM – 3:00PM

Start of annual Halloween Parade

Certificate of Insurance on file

**OAK RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Souderton Harleysville Youth Basketball Association

Gym

November 24, 2006 – March 17, 2007

Monday & Wednesdays – 6:30-10:00PM

Saturdays – 8:00AM – 3:00PM

Sundays – 10:00AM – 6:00PM

Certificate of Insurance on file

**SALFORD HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Souderton Harleysville Youth Basketball Association

Gym

November 24, 2006 – March 17, 2007

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday – 6:30PM – 10:00PM

Saturday – 8:00AM – 3:00PM

Sunday – 10:00AM – 6:00PM

Certificate of Insurance on file

**VERNFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Souderton Harleysville Youth Basketball Association

Gym

November 24, 2006 – March 17, 2007

Wednesday & Friday – 6:30-10:00PM

Saturday – 8:00AM – 3:00PM

Sunday – 10:00AM – 6:00PM

Certificate of Insurance on file

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Montgomery County

Library

Fridays – October 6, 13, 20, 27; November 3, 10, 17, 2006

February 9, 23; March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2007

3:30 – 4:45PM

Good News Club Meeting

Certificate of Insurance on file

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

**BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE**

Requests for Use of School Facilities (continued)

Prevailing rates, conforming to present policy

**WEST BROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Souderton Harleysville Youth Basketball Association

Gym

November 24, 2006 – March 17, 2007

Friday – 6:30PM – 10:00PM

Saturday – 8:00AM – 3:00PM

Sunday – 10:00AM – 6:00PM

Certificate of Insurance on file

**Committee Chairperson Report**

Mr. Brong announced that the Operations Committee discussed the following at the October 4, 2006 meeting:

New High School Project Update

Mr. Brong indicated that Phase III of the new high school is in progress. Structural steel is being erected in the science laboratory area, and the mechanicals are roughed-in Area B. Stairs have been elevated in Area B and C. Landscaping has begun and demolition of the house and barn will take place the week of October 16.

HVAC Options Study for Indian Valley Middle School

Mr. Brong reported that the HVAC system at Indian Valley Middle School is 40 years old. He indicated that the Operations Committee is considering three options for the renovations of this system: (Option 1) replace the two pipe system - \$2,204,000; (Option 2) go to a four pipe heating and cooling system at a cost of - \$3,148,000; (Option 3) install units on the roof at an additional cost of - \$153,000.

Revised Capital Improvement Plan

Mr. Brong stated that the capital improvement plan, which includes roofing projects and replacement of mechanical systems at Indian Crest and Indian Valley over the next five years, would cost \$6.85 million.

Dr. Parry asked if the numbers were final.

Mr. MacDougall asked what the money was reserved for in the Capital Reserve fund.

Mrs. Bray responded that the \$4.9 million is earmarked for the high school project.

**TRANSPORTATION**

No report.

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

**FOOD SERVICE**

No report.

The next Operations Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 1, 2006 at 6:30 PM in the Souderton Area School District Administrative Offices, Lowell A. Tinner Board Room, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Dr. Jack A. Parry, Chairperson

**Committee Chairperson Report**

Dr. Parry announced that the Finance Committee discussed the following at the October 4, 2006 meeting:

**2007-2008 Expenditure Budget**

Dr. Parry indicated that this was the “first look” at the 2007-2008 expenditure budget. He thanked Mrs. Bray and Mrs. Eves for their hard work at formulating a snap shot of the budget. The “first look” included a break down of functions, salaries and included graphics to explain the data. The total expenditure budget is at \$97 million.

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**Draft of 2007-2008 Budget Calendar**

Several board members commented on ways to examine the budget: by function, by object, by category, such as benefits, technology, personnel and special education.

Mr. Currie recommended that the board should not abandon looking at the functions and objects of the budget. He asked for an analysis of personnel by building.

Dr. Parry indicated that the board needed to give the administration direction regarding the index and exceptions. The board needs to look at discretionary things that can be impacted or changed.

Mr. MacDougall mentioned that if the board looked at the big picture, they would be repeating the function by function, object by object process.

Mr. Currie commented that the board needs to formulate a budget to go along with the state’s index and exceptions, but not abdicate the responsibility to allocate funds and resources.

Mr. MacDougall reiterated that we are in new territory and although we need to change the process, it is a difficult year to do that. We need to get comfortable with Act 1 so that the board can give the administration a goal.

Dr. Amuso indicated that we feel we have as much information as possible to make this projection. This time frame necessitated by Act 1, drives a 6.25% millage increase based on the index plus exceptions. Vendors’ estimates are high at this time and will change before the preliminary budget needs to be approved by January 25<sup>th</sup>.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Dr. Parry stated that there will be several versions of the revenue and expenditure budgets before we get to the preliminary budget in January.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 18, 2006 at 8:30 PM in the Souderton Area School District Administrative Offices, Lowell A. Tinner Board Room, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

**POLICY COMMITTEE**

Tracy G. Cole, Chairperson

**Committee Chairperson Report**

Proposed agenda items for the Wednesday, October 18, 2006 Policy Committee meeting will be, but not limited to the following:

- Video Taping Board Meetings for Television Viewing - Mrs. Cole mentioned that polling will not be finalized until October 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Policies #317.1, #417.1 and #517.1 – Terroristic Threats/Acts

**Second Reading of Policy #913 – Non-School Organization/Groups/Individuals**

Mrs. Cole indicated that Policy #913 was presented for a second reading.

Dr. Parry questioned if there was a policy that addresses staff and students.

Mr. Gallagher indicated that commercialism is addressed in a different policy.

The next Policy Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 18, 2006 at 6:30 PM in the Souderton Area School District Administrative Offices, Lowell A. Tinner Board Room, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT**

Tracy G. Cole, Representative

No report.

The next Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25, 2006 beginning at 7:45 PM. The meeting will be held at the IU, 1605 West Main Street, Norristown, PA.

**INDIAN VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Victor M. Verbeke, Representative

Mr. Verbeke shared information regarding the Indian Valley Public Library's September 2006 report. The library served 30,970 people in July and approximately 32,000 in August. Membership has grown from 60% to 79% of residents in the boroughs and townships.

**FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Tracy G. Cole, Representative

Mrs. Cole reported that the National School Board Association has rolled out a new initiative asking federal legislators to value students and achievement and meet the needs of IDEA. Federal legislators who sign on should be congratulated and voting records tracked.

**STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Dr. Jack Parry, Representative

Dr. Parry indicated that the next meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2006 at 6:30 PM. He reported that he had attended a healthcare session at the PSBA Legislative Conference this week and collected information that will be useful in collective bargaining. Dr. Parry and Mrs. Cole attended several sessions on improving climate and performance in our schools.

Mr. MacDougall asked if there was a statewide plan for healthcare since all school districts are concerned about cost.

Dr. Parry indicated that plans for statewide healthcare were discussed, but that it is a very complicated issue with many variables. He mentioned that Medicare was discussed.

**FEDERAL PROJECTS**

No report.

**REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR**

No report.

**UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. MacDougall asked if the administration was doing everything to keep the students safe.



**UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Gallagher mentioned that there is a comprehensive plan in place. Mrs. Betty Linko will be making security changes in the YMCA Kids Kare program. The district is maintaining a tight security program. Teachers are being instructed on bullying. Mr. Gallagher stated that “Code Red” drills are taking place in the buildings. Teachers are taking the safety of students very seriously.

Mr. Currie asked if the district’s technology was secure.

Mrs. Cole mentioned that we should not be resting on our “safety laurels.” We must stay vigilant.

Mr. Lord shared that when he recently passed the high school, he saw a door propped open after dismissal.

Mr. MacDougall shared several of the events that took place on Homecoming Day. He thought it was an interesting way to showcase a number of events and sports.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, there was a motion by Dr. Parry, second by Mr. Currie, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

**RESOLVED**, That the Board adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM.

**SOUDERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Brenda Jones Bray  
Board Secretary